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LOYALTY.

Loyalty is the badge of civilization. Wherever there is loyalty there is peace and progress. Treachery is a dart of Satan. It is an essential accompaniment of vice and sin. Loyalty is more precious than knowledge or gold. It gives assurance to home, church and state. No character without the element of loyalty will be loved, trusted or esteemed by the wise. For this cause a dog is often more appreciated than man or woman. His fidelity wins for him a place in his master's affections which beauty, knowledge and wealth are unable to obtain.

Loyalty is the first stone upon which it is possible to erect a happy and blessed marriage relation. The combined beauty, art, learning and wealth in all the ages of the world can not atone for the absence of loyalty. It is a virtue which covers a multitude of sins. Young men and women are sometimes attracted to each other, and the marriage relation entered into, through the enticements of lust, carnal accomplishments and possessions; but when they awake from the Satanic spell that has bound them they open their "eyes in hell being in torments." Many a poor girl had far better have met an open grave than the man who tore her heart from her breast and sent her down the weary years of life in sin and shame.

Although David was a great sinner he was always loyal to God. How very different with the brilliant Solomon. Though blessed with knowledge, wealth, and the promise of long life, and robed in regal splendor, he became a traitor to God. He reaped as he had sown. Having scattered seeds of vanity his empty heart saw only vanity in life. Therefore when he wrote of life he dipped his pen in the gall of his own bitter experience and sad disappointment and wrote, "All is vanity."

What is it we hear from congregations of blasted hopes in the Brethren church? "By treachery our shepherd (?) led us into the hands of our enemies." From no place has the cry come, "Our cause has been lost on

account of our preacher being homely and poorly educated." No difference how heavily a gun may be loaded, if it is not pointed in the right direction when it is fired it becomes more destructive to its friends than its foes. So with natural endowments and education. If they are not directed by the spirit of God the less a man has of them the better for the church he serves.

One of the most hopeful signs we have of the perpetuity of the institutions of God's house in the Brethren church in the increasing attention given by every congregation seeking a pastor to his spiritual qualifications. When a man is all right spiritually he will do no harm even if he can not do much good. More and more stress must be laid upon the spiritual qualifications of those who are licensed from year to year to preach the Gospel. Unless they approximate reasonably close the Divine standard no regard should be paid to their physical and literary embellishments further than to regard them as just that much more dangerous to "the faith once delivered unto the saints."

If there shall be raised the question of loyalty to God and his word in the selection of all officers and committees in the church of the Brethren our stability, prosperity and perpetuity will never become a question; but let our standard be one of mere literary adornment without regard to soul power and the invisible hand will at once appear and write of the Brethren church on the wall of destiny, "weighed in the balance and found wanting."

THE CHURCH AT BRYAN DEDICATED.

Last Sunday marks an era in the history of the Bryan church. Eighteen members, rather poor in this world's goods, one year ago last spring decided to erect a house in which they could meet to worship God where none could hinder nor molest. Its successful completion is largely the triumph of zeal and faith of a few godly women. Notwithstanding the fact that God and

JUST ONE FAITHFUL MEMBER

of his family are a majority against which the gates of hell have never been known to prevail. Still when we see living witnesses, because they appear at such rare intervals we are struck, with amazement with each recurring testimony of God's fidelity. No wonder His dear son broke out with the exclamation, "Oh, fools and

SLOW OF HEART TO BELIEVE."

The house erected is a plain frame structure 34x50, with basement under all six feet six inches in the clear, and posts for the main audience room fifteen feet on the sides with center posts twenty-three feet. The seats have curved bottoms and high backs.

THE TOTAL COST

to the brethren is about \$2,500. In this congregation are about eleven families representing a valuation of about \$20,000. Considering this, and previous misfortunes in getting wolves instead of shepherds our faithful brethren and sisters at this point certainly deserve the congratulations of the Brotherhood. No doubt much of the zeal and self-sacrificing love for "the cause" of this dear people is due to

TEACHING AND PERSONAL INFLUENCE OF BROTHER MARTIN SHIVELY

who served the congregation for two successive years before they began to build.

The only difficulty confronting these people is their inability alone to employ a suitable pastor. It is hoped that some one can be found who will come and take the oversight of this flock not for filthy lucre but conscience sake.

TYPOGRAPHICAL BLUNDERS.

Last winter President Harper of Chicago University was severely attacked by self-appointed preservers of "the faith once delivered unto the saints." Finally through the urgencies of his friends he answered his assailants. In doing so, he said, for the most part he did not hold the views which the reporters represented him as teaching. At this point he stopped to remark that he had never before asked to have the press make any corrections occurring through imperfect proof reading or otherwise.

When a man of Dr. Harper's standing can thus deal with typographical *errata* it seems to us that persons in the ordinary walks and circles of life should not be so exacting as some are. Our experience is that the poorer the copy the more tenacious the author is that no errors shall occur when the article appears in print.

Although we generally publish any corrections that are requested, nevertheless we doubt if we have even *one* reader, except the writer of the correction, who ever turns to the article corrected after reading the "erratum," "errata," etc. We have yet the first one who sends legible copy, properly punctuated, capitalized and paragraphed to ask for the publication of errors which they found in their articles when printed.

About everything which appears in our columns has had its proof read by copy; and where the wrong word occurs it is because it was written so illegibly that neither the compositor nor the proof-reader could decipher it. Often the whole force of the office is consulted, but without avail. Of course the author thinks that any compositor or proof-reader ought to know what word was intended for every place even if not